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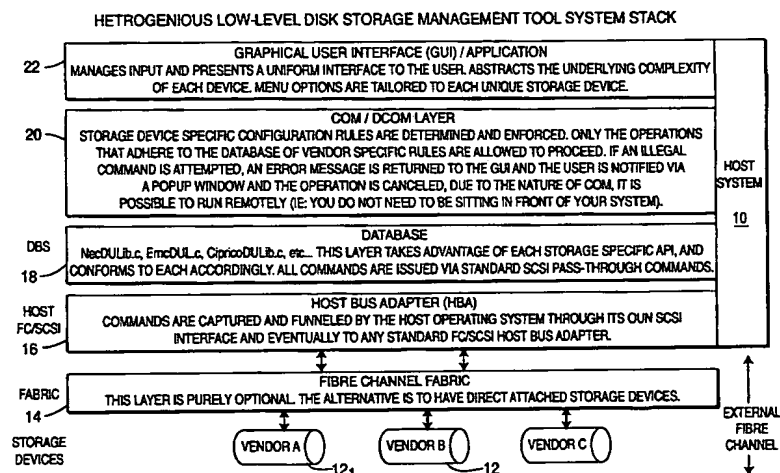
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(54) Title: HETEROGENEOUS DISK STORAGE MANAGEMENT TECHNIQUE



(57) Abstract: Management of one or more storage devices (12₁-12) is achieved by first identifying each device by its make and model, and then establishing a database (18) containing information about that device, such as (a) operational rules, (b) commands and (c) processing routines. From the information obtained from the database (18), a Graphical User Interface is created for display to afford a user at least one menu option for selection. Upon selecting the one menu option, the user obtains at least one of (a) a display of information associated with the identified storage device, and (b) execution of at least one process to control, at least in part, the operation of the identified storage device. The user's selection is processed and the Graphical User Interface is automatically updated in response to the processing of the user's selected menu option.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/17608

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 17/00; G09G 5/00

US CL : 707/1, 102; 345/810, 835, 848-855

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,346,954 B1 (CHU et al.) 12 February 2002 (12.02.2002), column 6, column 7.	1-11
Y, P	US 6,519,678 B1 (BASHAM et al.) 11 February 2003 (11.02.2003), column 7, column 8.	1-11
Y	US 6,266,740 B1 (DON et al.) 24 July 2001 (24.07.2001), column 5, lines 11-64, column 6, lines 28-49, column 8, line 51 to column 9, line 3.	1-11
Y	US 6,101,559 A (SCHULTZ et al.) 08 August 2000 (08.08.2000), column 5, line 37 to column 6, line 27.	1-11

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document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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